NATIONAL CONSERVATION LANDS

California

Wilderness Areas, Wilderness Study Areas, Wild and Scenic Rivers, National Scenic and Historic Trails, National Monuments, National Conservation Areas, Outstanding Natural Area, Forest Reserve, California Desert National Conservation Lands

Oregon
15 Klamath
Wild & Scenic River
17 Trinity
Wild & Scenic River
Trinidad Head
Waluplh-Lighthouse Ranch
9 Headwaters
Forest Reserve
19 California
National
Historic Trai
Lost Coast Headlands
14 Eel Wild & Scenic River
8 King Range
National Conservation Area
1
Berryessa
Snow Mountain
National Monument
12 North Fork
American
Wild & Scenic
River
Point Arena-Stornetta
Tuolumne
Wild & Scenic River
18
Merced
Wild & Scenic River
16
Cotoni-Coast Dairies
4 Fort Ord
National Monumer
Piedras Blancas
10 Piedras Blancas
Light Station
Outstanding
Natural Area
2 California Coastal
National Monument
Carrizo Plain
National Monument
3
Bureau of Land Management
U.S. Forest Service
National Park Service
Department of Defense
BLM Wilderness
BLM Wilderness Study Area
BLM National Monument,
National Conservation Area,
Forest Reserve,
Outstanding Natural Area
Old Spanish Trail
Juan Bautista de Anza Trail
Pacific Crest Trail
California Trail
Wild & Scenic River
California Desert
Conservation Area

#1057286200 ID:99075386
GV 191.42 .C2 C35 2019 c.2

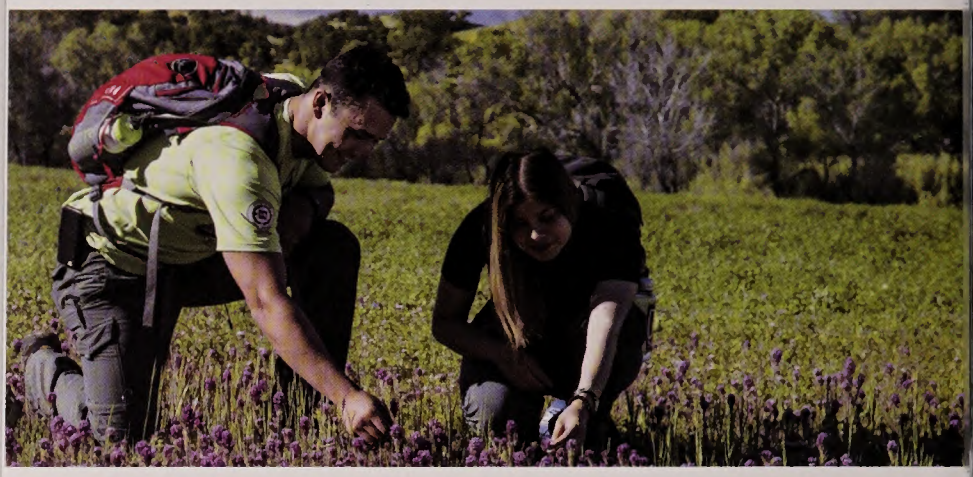
The Bureau of Land Management's

National Conservation Lands

include nationally significant landscapes that have outstanding cultural, ecological, and scientific values. These treasured lands are managed for the benefit of current and future generations. The California system includes nearly 10 million acres of public lands that reflect the state's natural diversity and rich history.

This booklet includes information about each of these special areas. Contact information is also listed so you can make plans to explore these outstanding public lands.

1 Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument



Visitors enjoy spring wildflowers along the Redbud Trail.

Within easy driving distance of the San Francisco and Sacramento metropolitan areas, Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument encompasses a rugged, scenic, and biologically diverse stretch of the coast range. There are many opportunities for hunters, hikers, kayakers, and off-highway vehicle enthusiasts to explore this 330,000 acre national monument that is jointly managed with the US Forest Service.

For more information, contact the Ukiah Field Office at (707) 468-4000.

2 California Coastal National Monument

Wildlife abounds on California's offshore rocks and islands.

The California Coastal National Monument is renowned for its dazzling beauty and abundant wildlife. The monument includes more than 20,000 offshore rocks, small islands, exposed reefs, and pinnacles along 1,100 miles of the California coastline. The monument also includes nearly 8,000 acres of onshore lands in six distinct units: Trinidad Head, Waluplh-Lighthouse Ranch, Lost Coast Headlands, Point Arena-Stornetta, Cotoni-Coast Dairies, and Piedras Blancas. These areas provide habitat for marine mammals and seabirds, and opportunities to enjoy California's dramatic coast.

For more information, contact the California Coastal National Monument office at (831) 582-2200.

Why National Monuments?

National Monuments can be designated by either the President or Congress to protect objects of historic or scientific interest or other features. They are set aside for preservation and public enjoyment.

3 Carrizo Plain
National Monument

A hiker is awed by Carrizo Plain's kaleidoscope of spring wildflowers.

Today California's Central Valley is a landscape of agriculture and urban expansion. Three hundred years ago it was a vast grassland where antelope and elk grazed and wildflowers swept the spring landscape. Just 100 miles from Los Angeles, one of the last remnants of this landscape can be found at the 204,000-acre Carrizo Plain National Monument. The monument is home to many rare plants and animals and important cultural sites revered by Native Americans.

For more information, contact the Carrizo Plain National Monument office at (805) 475-2131 or the Bakersfield Field Office at (661) 391-6000.

4 Fort Ord
National Monument

Mountain bikers ride through Fort Ord's rolling hills.

A former US Army base, Fort Ord National Monument serves as a cherished link to the men and women who bravely served America in the major conflicts of the 20th century. Fort Ord's 7,200 acres also provide more than 80 miles of trails for hikers, cyclists, and equestrians to enjoy rolling hills, oak woodlands, and a huge diversity of plant and animal life.

For more information, contact the Central Coast Field Office at (831) 582-2200.

5 Mojave Trails
National Monument

Visitors can tour along historic Route 66.

The Mojave Trails National Monument offers visitors a stunning mosaic of rugged mountain ranges, ancient lava flows, and spectacular sand dunes. Its 1.6 million acres include ancient Native American trading routes, World War II-era training camps, the longest remaining undeveloped stretch of Route 66, and six designated wilderness areas. Off highway vehicle touring, camping, fossil collecting, and hiking are popular activities within the national monument.

For more information, contact the Needles Field Office at (760) 326-7000.

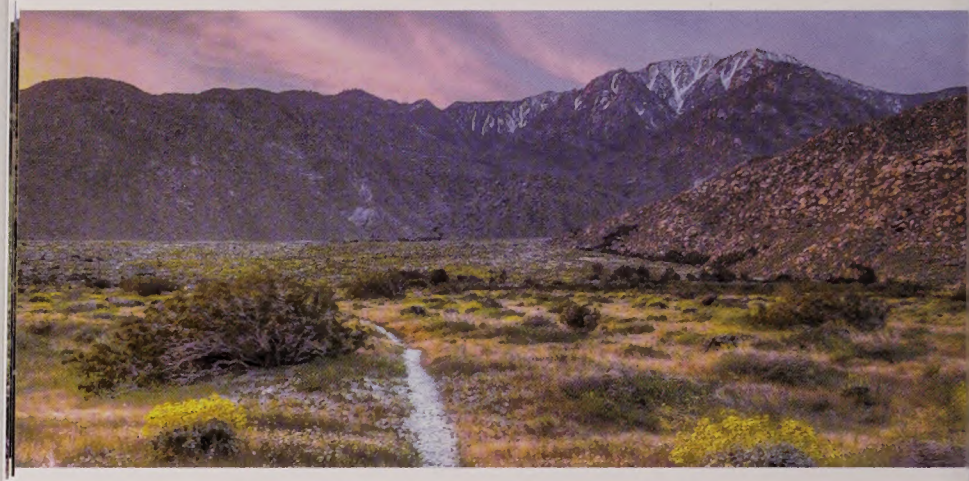
6 Sand to Snow
National Monument

A hiker takes in a dramatic view of San Gorgonio Peak.

As its name suggests, Sand to Snow National Monument is one of the most biologically diverse areas in southern California. The monument stretches from desert lowlands to San Gorgonio Peak, the region's tallest alpine mountain, and supports more than 240 bird species. The 154,000 acre national monument is jointly managed with the US Forest Service and is a favorite for camping, hiking, hunting, horseback riding, and even skiing.

For more information, contact the Palm Springs Field Office at (760) 833-7100 or the Barstow Field Office at (760) 252-6000.

7 Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument



The Pacific Crest Trail traverses the Monument.

Rising abruptly from the desert floor to nearly 11,000 feet, the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument provides the scenic backdrop to the Coachella Valley. Within the 280,000-acre monument visitors can find magnificent palm oases, snow-capped mountains, the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail, and wilderness areas. The monument is jointly managed by the BLM and the U.S. Forest Service.

For more information, contact the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Visitor Center at (760) 862-9984 or the Palm Springs Field Office at (760) 833-7100.

8 King Range
National Conservation Area

Hikers along the Lost Coast Trail

The King Range National Conservation Area encompasses 68,000 acres along 35 miles of California's dramatic north coast. This remote region of mountains and seascapes is known as California's Lost Coast and is accessible only by a few back roads. The area's Douglas fir-covered peaks attract hikers, hunters, mountain bikers, and campers, while the coast beckons surfers, anglers, beachcombers, and many others.

For more information, contact the King Range National Conservation Area office at (707) 986-5400 or the Arcata Field Office at (707) 825-2300.

Why National Conservation Areas?

Congress designates National Conservation Areas to conserve and protect the public lands for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations. These lands offer exceptional scientific, cultural, ecological, historical, and recreational value.

9 Headwaters
Forest Reserve

Redwoods are part of the unique habitat at Headwaters

The 7,500 acre Headwaters Forest Reserve was acquired in 1999 to protect unique ecological and wildlife values. Visitors can enjoy stands of old-growth redwood and Douglas-fir trees. Headwaters provides habitat for the marbled murrelet and the northern spotted owl—both birds listed as threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Reserve's streams also protect habitat for the threatened coho and chinook salmon and steelhead trout.

For more information about the Headwaters Forest Reserve—including information about trails and guided hikes—contact the Arcata Field Office at (707) 825-2300.

Why a Forest Reserve?

A Forest Reserve is designated by Congress to conserve and study the land, fish, wildlife, and forests while providing public recreation.

10 Piedras Blancas Light Station
Outstanding Natural Area

A full moon rises over the light station.

The Piedras Blancas Light Station, near San Simeon, is a historic landmark on California's central coast. The light station, now a unit of the California Coastal National Monument, is named for the distinctive white rocks that loom just offshore. These rocks, and the rugged shoreline, are home to seabirds, sea lions, and elephant seals. Working with community partners, the BLM has removed all non-native vegetation from the 19 acres surrounding the light station; over 70 native plant species can now be found.

Guided tours are available to the public. For information, contact the Piedras Blancas Light Station office at (805) 927-7361 or the Bakersfield Field Office at (661) 391-6000.

Why an Outstanding Natural Area?

An Outstanding Natural Area is designated by Congress to protect, conserve, and enhance the unique and nationally important values of certain public lands while still allowing recreation and research.

11 Amargosa
Wild & Scenic River

Often called the "Crown Jewel of the Mojave Desert," the Amargosa is the only free-flowing river in the Death Valley region. It provides a rare and lush riparian area in the desert, and a home for the critically endangered Amargosa vole. The river flows year-round, and has allowed people to live in this harsh region, on and off, for the past 8,000 years.

Contact the Barstow Field Office at (760) 252-6000.

12 North Fork American
Wild & Scenic River

Fasten your life jackets—it's going to be a bumpy ride! The famous Giant Gap run of the North Fork American River is one of the most challenging whitewater runs in Northern California with class IV and V rapids. Cliffs tower 2,000 feet above emerald green waters frothing through rapids studded with boulders. The historic Stevens Trail provides access into the canyon for gold panning, wildflower viewing, and other outdoor activities.

Contact the Mother Lode Field Office at (916) 941-3101.

13 Cottonwood Creek
Wild & Scenic River

Cottonwood Creek is the longest perennial stream on the arid, east side of the White Mountains. The headwaters originate at over 11,000 feet. Cottonwood Creek supports riparian willow and cottonwood habitat and protected bird species such as yellow warbler, yellow-breasted chat, prairie falcon, and Coopers' hawk. Cottonwood Creek offers a variety of recreation opportunities.

Contact the Ridgecrest Field Office at (760) 384-5400.

14 Eel Wild & Scenic River

The Eel River makes up the state's third-largest watershed and flows through fog-shrouded mountains and coastal rainforest. The river supports one of California's largest salmon and steelhead runs as well as its largest remaining old-growth redwood forests. The BLM manages Dos Rios, the popular put-in place for rafters and kayakers making the four-day run through the famous Eel River canyon to Alderpoint. The South Fork is a remote Class IV run through the Elkhorn Ridge Wilderness Area.

Contact the Arcata Field Office at (707) 825-2300.

Why Wild and Scenic Rivers?

Wild and Scenic Rivers are designated by Congress to protect their outstandingly remarkable values and their natural and free-flowing condition.

Photo: Kayaker on the Tuolumne River by Daniel Brasuell.

15 Klamath
Wild & Scenic River

Just south of the Oregon Border, BLM's Stateline boat ramp and primitive campground is used as a take-out point on the Klamath River for the 17-mile stretch of class I–V whitewater upriver.

For information including on permitted guides on this whitewater run, contact the Klamath Falls Field Office (Oregon) at (541) 883-6916 or the Redding Field Office at (530) 224-2100.

16 Merced
Wild & Scenic River

From Yosemite National Park, the Merced River tumbles through glacially carved canyons, rugged mountains, and foothills on its way to the San Joaquin Valley. The BLM manages 12 miles of this Wild and Scenic River. Ample access points allow rafters to experience class III and IV rapids at their own pace. Visitors can camp at nearby Willow Placer, Railroad Flat, and McCabe Flat campgrounds, explore the river along the Merced River Trail, or stop at the Briceburg Visitor Center.

Contact the Mother Lode Field Office at (916) 941-3101.

17 Trinity
Wild & Scenic River

The Trinity River emerges clear and cold from Lewiston Lake and flows through a deep mountain valley cloaked with conifers. The river is very popular among salmon and steelhead anglers who are often seen on crisp fall and winter mornings fly fishing from drift boats. The area has an abundance of camping places including the BLM-managed Steel Bridge, Douglas City, and Junction City campgrounds. The river has many undeveloped public access points along the corridor. Boaters plying the class I and II rapids should look for brush hazards and fallen trees.

Contact the Redding Field Office at (530) 224-2100.

18 Tuolumne
Wild & Scenic River

The Tuolumne originates from snowmelt off Mounts Dana and Lyell in Yosemite National Park before traversing BLM public lands further downstream. The river contains some of the most noted whitewater in the high Sierras and is extremely popular with rafters. Class IV and V rapids, chutes, and pools by the score create the ultimate river adventure, a journey both exciting and pristine. The world-famous Tuolumne is where the ambitious earn their stripes.

Contact the Mother Lode Field Office at (916) 941-3101.

Photo: North Fork American River bend.

19 California
National Historic Trail

After gold was discovered at Sutter's Mill in 1848, the California gold rush took many paths. Between 1849 and 1850, 70,000 people traveled this trail which linked California to the rest of the U.S.

Eagle Lake Field Office (530) 257-0456, NPS National Trails System Office in Salt Lake City, UT (801) 741-1012.

20 Juan Bautista de Anza
National Historic Trail

The trail commemorates an epic journey in 1775–76 of settlers and soldiers from central Mexico to San Francisco Bay, led by Lt. Col. Juan Bautista de Anza. Hikers, equestrians, and auto tourists now explore this historic route visiting its missions, pueblos, and presidios.

California Desert District (951) 697-5200, NPS Juan Bautista de Anza NHT Office in San Francisco (415) 623-2340.

21 Old Spanish
National Historic Trail

Opened by the Santa Fe trader Antonio Armijo in 1829, this trail connected Santa Fe to Los Angeles across Mexico's northern frontier. Today's route connects noted natural landmarks, springs, mountain and canyon passes, and historic towns.

California Desert District (951) 697-5200, NPS Trail System Office in Santa Fe, NM (505) 988-6098.

Why National Historic Trails?

National historic trails commemorate prominent routes of exploration, migration, trade, communication, and military action.

22 Pacific Crest
National Scenic Trail

Hikers enjoy wildflowers on the Pacific Crest Trail

The Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (PCT) spans 2,650 miles from Mexico to Canada. The trail passes through more than 180 miles of BLM land in southern California. This includes four designated wilderness areas and two national monuments. The BLM managed segments of the trail offer access to remote and spectacular vistas in the Califonia desert.

For more information, contact the Bakersfield Field Office at (661) 391-6000, Ridgecrest Field Office at (760) 384-5400, or the Palm Springs Field Office at (760) 833-7100.

Why a National Scenic Trail?

National scenic trails are continuous protected scenic corridors that offer outstanding recreational experiences.

Wilderness

Hikers in the Mecca Hills Wilderness

Large areas in California are still primitive, natural, and roadless. Congress has designated about 3.8 million acres of BLM managed lands in California as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System. These represent some of the country's most spectacular landscapes, ranging from desert sand dunes to the Pacific coastline, and from river canyons to mountain peaks.

Wilderness lands offer outstanding opportunities for finding solitude or pursuing primitive recreation activities such as hiking, hunting, wildlife viewing, and horseback riding. They are also remote areas where visitors must be prepared with the proper skills and equipment to experience nature on its own terms.

Contact the local field office associated with a Wilderness Area for more information.

BLM Wilderness Areas
in California

Agua Tibia
Argus Range
Beauty Mountain
Big Maria Mtns
Bigelow Cholla Garden
Bighorn Mountain
Black Mountain
Bright Star
Bristol Mountains
Cache Creek
Cadiz Dunes
Carrizo Gorge
Cedar Roughs
Chemehuevi Mtns
Chimney Peak
Chuckwalla Mtns
Cleghorn Lakes
Clipper Mountain
Coso Range
Coyote Mtns
Darwin Falls
Dead Mtns
Domeland
El Paso Mountains
Elkhorn Ridge
Fish Creek Mtns
Funeral Mountains
Golden Valley
Granite Mountain
Grass Valley
Hollow Hills
Ibex
Indian Pass
Inyo Mountains
Ishi
Jacumba
Kelso Dunes
Kiavah
King Range
Kingston Range
Little Picacho
Little Chuckwalla Mtns
Machesna Mtn
Malpais Mesa
Manly Peak
Mecca Hills
Mesquite
Newberry Mtns
Nopah Range
North Algodones Dunes
North Mesquite Mtns
Old Woman Mtns
Orocopia Mtns
Otay Mountain
Owens Peak
Pahrump Valley
Palen/McCoy
Palo Verde Mtns
Picacho Peak
Pinto Mtns
Piper Mountain
Piute Mountains
Resting Spring Range
Rice Valley
Riverside Mtns
Rocks and Islands
Rodman Mtns
Sacatar Trail
Saddle Peak Hills
San Gorgonio
Santa Lucia
Santa Rosa
Sawtooth Mtns
Sheephole Valley
South Fork Eel River
South Nopah Range
Stateline
Stepladder Mtns
Surprise Canyon
Sylvania Mtns
Trilobite
Turtle Mountains
Ventana Additions
Whipple Mtns
White Mountains
Yolla Bolly-Middle Eel
Yuki

Why Wilderness?

Congress designates Wilderness Areas to preserve lands in their natural condition and ensure they remain undeveloped and untrammeled. These lands offer outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation.

Wilderness Study Areas

Tunnison Mountain Wilderness Study Area

BLM California manages 68 Wilderness Study Areas in California and northwest Nevada totaling over 1 million acres. These areas encompass dramatic landscapes ranging from chaparral clad mountains of the Coast Range to sagebrush mesas of the Modoc Plateau.

These areas are open to a variety of backcountry recreation opportunities including hiking, horseback riding, hunting, and backpacking to name a few.

Contact the local field office associated with a Wilderness Study Area for more information.

Why Wilderness Study Areas?

Wilderness Study Areas are lands that the BLM has studied for possible wilderness designation and is managing to protect their wilderness character until Congress makes a final decision regarding their designation.

California Desert National Conservation Lands

Trona Pinnacles

The California Desert National Conservation Lands are a vast, beautiful, and fragile landscape. Designated based on Congressional direction, these lands hold nationally significant biological, cultural, and recreational resources and are within easy reach of the Los Angeles metropolitan area. There are 2.9 million acres of these desert lands that do not overlap with other National Conservation lands.

Why California Desert National Conservation Lands?

Congress directed the BLM to include lands managed for conservation purposes in the California desert as part of the National Conservation Lands.

Do Your Part:
Leave No Trace

Leave No Trace™
Center for Outdoor Ethics | LNT.org

Follow the seven Leave No Trace principles to help protect our natural areas on your next visit:

1. Plan Ahead and Prepare
2. Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces
3. Dispose of Waste Properly
4. Leave What You Find
5. Minimize Campfire Impacts
6. Respect Wildlife
7. Be Considerate of Other Visitors

Learn more at www.lnt.org

Explore your public lands:
www.blm.gov/visit

National Conservation Lands:
www.blm.gov/programs/national-conservation-lands

Bureau of Land Management
California State Office
2800 Cottage Way, Suite W1623
Sacramento, CA 95825
(916) 978-4400

Subscribe to News.bytes,
our weekly e-newsletter
www.blm.gov/california

news BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT CALIFORNIA BYTES

BLM/CA/GI-2018/016+6100